# **Economic Overview And Outlook: The District Of Columbia**

#### **JOBS**

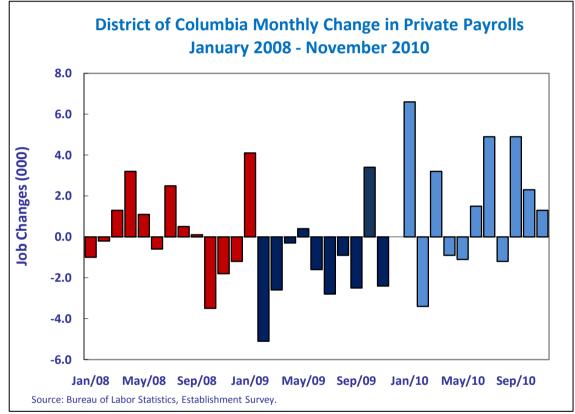
- Across the country, the private sector gained jobs in each month of 2010.
- The President's Council of Economic Advisers estimates that investments made through the Recovery Act have boosted employment in the District of Columbia by 19,000 jobs through the 3rd quarter of 2010.
- In the District of Columbia, private sector employment fell by 2.1 percent from December 2007 to December 2009. In 2010, private sector employment grew by 4.0 percent.
- In the District of Columbia, employees in the information services, construction, and financial activities sectors faced the largest job losses (as a percent of employment within an industry) over the recession. In 2010, the following sectors in the District of Columbia experienced the greatest employment increases: professional and business services; education and health services; and construction.\*
- As the economy recovers from the Great Recession, service-providing industries are projected to add the most jobs between 2008 and 2018, with the largest gains in professional and business services, education, health care and social assistance, and State and local government. Within the goods-producing sector of the economy, only the construction industry is projected to add jobs above its 2008 level.

#### **EMPLOYMENT**

- The unemployment rate in the District of Columbia was 9.8 percent in November 2010, up 4.3 percentage points from December 2007, but down from its most recent peak of 12.0 percent reached in January 2010.
- 33,000 District of Columbia residents were counted among the unemployed in District of Columbia during November 2010.

### **EARNINGS**

Between the start of the recession in the 4th quarter of 2007 and the 3rd quarter of 2009, inflation-adjusted total personal income in the United States declined 2.2 percent. Most recently, in the 3rd quarter of 2010, total personal income remained 0.6 percent below the 2nd quarter 2008 peak.



Real per capita personal income (in 2005 \$) in the District of Columbia was \$62,502.30 in the 3rd quarter of 2010, up from \$62,294.90 in the 3rd quarter of 2008.

## Housing

- National home prices, including distressed sales, saw a decrease of 3.9 percent in October 2010 from October 2009 compared to a 2.4 percent decrease in September. In District of Columbia, home prices saw a decrease of 2.4 percent in October 2010 from October 2009 following September's year over year increase of 0.3 percent.
- The median price of single-family homes in the District of Columbia was \$404,380 in the second quarter of 2010, compared to \$180,176 nationwide.
- As of the 3rd quarter of 2010, 2.8 percent of all mortgages, including 12.1 percent of subprime mortgages, were in foreclosure in the District of Columbia.
- Housing starts in the District of Columbia totaled 150 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in October 2010, a decrease of 34.8 percent from September.
- Within the South census region, which includes the District of Columbia, sales of new single-family homes totaled 164,000 units in October 2010, an increase of 3.1 percent from September. Sales of existing single-family homes decreased 2.5 percent to 1,530,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from September to October 2010.

<sup>\*</sup> For District of Columbia-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the District of Columbia office: http://www.does.dc.gov/does/cwp/view,a,1233,q,538030.asp

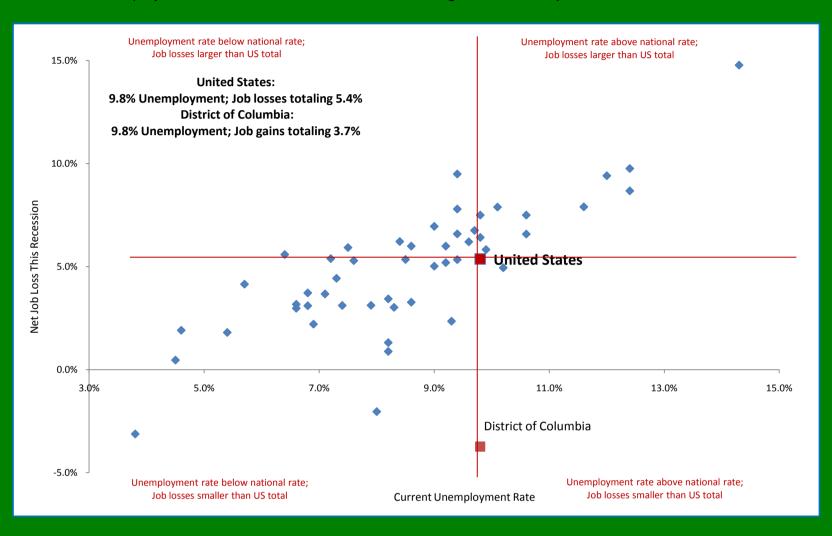
Prepared by the Majority Staff of the Joint Economic Committee

# How Does The District Of Columbia Compare To The States?

Workers across the country have been hard hit by the Great Recession. This chart allows you to compare the District of Columbia to the states using two metrics.

The current unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor market conditions faced by residents, while the proportion of jobs lost within the District of Columbia over the course of the recession (shown along the vertical axis) measures the toll the recession has taken on the job supply in the District of Columbia.

States falling in the upper right quadrant have lost a disproportionate share of jobs, relative to the total United States, and have unemployment rates higher than the national unemployment rate. States falling in the lower left quadrant have unemployment rates lower than the national average and smaller job losses over the recession.



# **DISTRICT QUICK FACTS**

		District of Columbia	United States
Unemployment Rates	November 2008	7.7%	6.9%
N	November 2009	11.6%	10.0%
N	November 2010	9.8%	9.8%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans2	2009	4.6%	7.1%
Veterans' Unemployment Rate 2	2009	9.6%	8.9%
Median Household Income2	2007	\$ 52,534	\$ 51,965
<b>(2009 \$)</b>	2009	\$ 53,141	\$ 49,777
Poverty Rate2	2007	18.0%	12.5%
2	2009	17.9%	14.3%
No Health Insurance 2	2007	9.5%	15.3%
2	2009	12.4%	16.7%